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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

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SUBJECT Organization of 84 Communications Battalion of
14 Regiment, 8 Infantry Division; Officers of
Communications Battalion of 8 Division; Training;
and Ammunition Warehouse

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Organization of 84 Communications Battalion of 14 Regiment, 8 Infantry
Division:

1. In each Division there is an independent communications battalion which for tactical purposes is under the Division, but for administrative purposes is under the Directorate of Communications in Tirane.
2. The Staff of the Independent Communications Battalion is as follows:
 - a. Commanding Officer
 - b. Commissar
 - c. Operations Officer
 - d. Security Officer
 - e. Two sergeant clerks
 - f. One private serving as a messenger.
3. The company of wireless telegraph operators has the following organization and materiel:
 - a. The commanding officer is a first or second lieutenant. The deputy commander is a second lieutenant or a warrant officer. The company is organized into three squads of seven men each under the command of a sergeant.
 - b. The wireless company has eight Soviet type R.P. wireless sets with a range of 15 kilometers for voice and code. It is alleged that the receivers can be used at a greater range. The company also has one Soviet long-range wireless set and one German set.
 - c. The 8 Division uses this company for communication with other Divisions and with Tirane; for this purpose the long-range Soviet set is used. An R.P. set is used for communication with the Brigades.
 - d. The company is also used for the training of wireless telegraph operators.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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4. The company of telephonists has the following organization and materiel:
 - a. The Commanding Officer is a captain or lieutenant, and there is an officer who acts as Commissar. There are four platoons with a second lieutenant or a warrant officer in charge of each. Each platoon is composed of four squads of eight men each with a sergeant in charge of each squad.
 - b. Each squad has three telephones. In each platoon there is a switchboard with ten connections. All the telephones are Soviet type T AI 43 (sic).
 - c. The telephone company is responsible for telephone communication of the Division and the Brigades* and for the various independent units of the Division.
5. The following are officers in the Communications Battalion of 8 Division:
 - a. Officer in command of the battalion staff: Lieutenant Veis Dishnica from Dishnica, age 30.
 - b. Commissar: Fejzo Hoxha from Gjinokaster, age 32, second cousin of Enver Hoxha.
 - c. Operations Officer: Lieutenant Asim Nace, from Koloneca.
 - d. Security Officer: Warrant Officer Koco Pecani, an Orthodox Christian from Proger near Devoll.
 - e. Commanding Officer of the Wireless Company: Warrant Officer Naum Koxhaku.
 - f. Commanding Officer of the Telephone Company: 2nd Lieutenant Resul Refati from Skrapar, age 28.
 - g. Commissar (apparently of the Telephone Company): Toli Isa from Berat, age 24.
6. Training:
 - a. The wireless company of the communications battalion of 8 Division trained 45 wireless operators from various squads of the Division. The training began in February 1947 and was completed in January 1948. During the period of training a Soviet major from Tirane inspected the training measures and exercises every two months.
 - b. The second training course of 35 men lasted from April 1948 to December 1948.
 - c. The wireless company in each Division is always used for the training of wireless operators, and the period of training is from nine to 12 months.
7. In August 1948, the Communications Battalion of 8 Division held maneuvers in the vicinity of Morave. During the course of these maneuvers a telephone network and wireless network was developed for a Division moving from Korce to establish a defense in the Morave region. A report was sent that the Greek Army held certain points of Morave and was moving towards Korce. These maneuvers were observed by Major Ldazi Cepani and a Soviet Major from Tirane.
8. Stores: About 400 meters northwest of Vithkuq there is a stone church whose dimensions are about 20 x 8 meters. In 1948 this church was used to store ammunition for mountain artillery.

Comment: Refers to the Independent Brigades.

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